

The Hong Kong Daily Press.

No. 8209

號九百二十八第

日九月三十日光

HONGKONG, MONDAY, APRIL 14TH, 1884.

PRICE \$2 PER MONTH

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

April 11, GLENALLOCH, British steamer, 1,418.
W. J. Bush, Saigon 6th April, Rice—
CHINESE.

April 11, DANUBI, British steamer, 601. J.
Newton, Bangkok 4th April, Rice and
General—YUEN FAT HONG.

April 11, ACTIV, Danish steamer, 265. N. C.
Rebech, Haiphong 7th April, and Hoihow
10th General—A. E. MARTY.

April 11, AERBURN, British steamer, 1,613.
Lambert, Shanghai 6th April, General—
ADAMSON, BELL & CO.

April 11, FOOSING, British steamer, 900.
Hogg, Canton 11th April, General—JAS-
DON MATTHEWS & CO.

April 11, YANGTZE, British steamer, 783.
Schultz, Canton 11th April, General—
SIEMSEN & CO.

April 12, NAUTILUS, German gunboat from
Canton.

April 12, NEWCHANG, British steamer, 557.
J. S. Peoples, Swinow 10th April, General—
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.

April 12, DON JUAN, Spanish steamer, 454.
Marques, Manila 6th April, General—
BRANDA & CO.

April 12, MACHADA, British steamer, 805.
T. Hutchinson, Manila 9th April, General—
RUSSELL & CO.

April 12, CHEUNG HOOK KIAN, British steamer,
556. F. Webb, Singapore 6th April, General—
BUN HIN CHAN.

April 12, KEIVA, British steamer, 1,119. P.
Harris, Yokohama 4th April, Mills and
General—F. & O. S. N. CO.

April 12, LYDIA, German steamer, 1,160. L.
Thygesen, Yokohama 4th April, General—
SIEMSEN & CO.

April 12, ROSSLYN, British steamer, 1,640. J.
McKenzie, Singapore 6th April, Coals and
General—BUN HIN & CO.

April 12, ASTON, German steamer, 375. Schmid,
Hausel 10th April, Sugar—WIEDE & CO.

April 12, TRUMLY, German steamer, 674.
Schult, Quantau 10th April, General—
WIEDE & CO.

April 12, DOUGLAS VILLAS, CANE
Road, 1,165.

No. 8, UPPER MELBOURNE TERRACE,
Possession from 1st May.

Apply to DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & CO.
Hongkong, 7th April, 1884.

INTIMATIONS

FOR SALE.

A MERICAN ORGANS, with iron Shirto
Eleven Stop, at from \$100 to \$100 each.
Made expressly to withstand the combined
heat and moisture of the Hongkong Climate.

PIANOS, by BROADWOOD, COLLARD and
COLLARD, and CHAPPELL, always in stock for
Sale or Hire.

PIANOS, ORGANS, and HARMONIUMS,
Repaired and Tuned by a Competent Tuner
from Messrs. Broadwood & Sons London.

NEW MUSIC, received monthly from
MESSRS. CHAPPELL & CO., London.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.,
Hongkong, 13th March, 1884.

TO BE LET.

OFFICES at QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,
BASMENT, 1st and 2nd FLOORS.
Apply to NAM HING LOONG,
Hongkong, 11th April, 1884.

TO BE LET.

NO. 2, DOUGLAS VILLAS, CANE
Road, 1,165.

TO BE LET.

No. 8, UPPER MELBOURNE TERRACE,
Possession from 1st May.

TO BE LET.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & CO.
Hongkong, 7th April, 1884.

TO BE LET.

ROOMS in CANTON CHAMBERS.
Apply to DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & CO.
Hongkong, 1st February, 1882.

TO BE LET.

Two ROOMS FURNISHED.
Apply to the Premises.
No. 1, DUDDELL STREET,
Hongkong, 3rd April, 1884.

TO BE LET.

NOS. 3, 7, and 8, SEYMOUR TERRACE,
No. 7, GARDEN ROAD, (known as HARPER-
VILLE).
No. 25, PRAYA CENTRAL.

TO BE LET.

DAVID SASOON, SONS & CO.
Hongkong, 28th June, 1883.

TO BE LET.

OFFICES at No. 6, PRAYA CENTRAL,
facing the Harbour on Ground Floor of
Block occupied by the Messageries Maritimes.
Apply to W. G. HUMPHREYS & CO.,
No. 6, Praya Central.
Hongkong, 2nd April, 1884.

TO BE LET.

THE DETACHED RESIDENCE known
as "BELLEVUE".
Apply to LINSTEAD & DAVIS,
Hongkong, 7th April, 1884.

NOTICE.

THE PARTNERSHIP between Messrs. STEPHENS & HOLMES having expired on 31st March, 1884, I have THIS DAY RE-NAMED my Office to No. 18, Bank Building, Queen's Road Central, opposite Pedder's Street.
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NOTICE

A. S. WATSON AND CO.
FAMILY AND DISPENSING
CHEMISTS.
By Appointment to His Excellency the Governor and His Royal Highness the Duke of EDINBURGH,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS,
PERFUMERS,
PATENT MEDICINE VENDORS,
DRUGGISTS' SUPPLYMEN,
AND
OPERATED WATER MAKERS.

SHIPS' MEDICINE CHESTS REFITTED,
PASSENGER SHIPS SUPPLIED.

NOTICE.—To avoid delay in the execution of Orders it is particularly requested that all business communications be addressed to the Firm, A. S. Watson and Co., or HONGKONG DISPENSARY. (23)

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications on editorial matters should be addressed to "The Editor," and those on business to "The Manager," and not to individuals by name.

Advertisers are requested to forward their name and address with communications addressed to the Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

Advertisements and subscription which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until countermanded.

Orders for extra copies of the *Daily Press* should be sent before 11 a.m. on the day of publication. After that hour the supply is limited.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, APRIL 14TH, 1884.

The correspondence laid on the Council table on Wednesday last in reference to the extension of the Praya along the sea face of the naval and military establishment shows that His Excellency the Governor has taken up this question with characteristic energy. Hongkong is fortunate in securing a Governor like Sir George Bowen, whose representations carry so much weight in Downing Street, and who is always willing to use his undoubted influence in support of any scheme or measure for the benefit of the colony. We have seen how success attended his efforts to secure a measure of popular representation in the appointment of the unofficial members in the reconstituted Legislative Council, and since then another proof of the attention given to his despatches at the Colonial Office has been afforded by the consent wrung from the Secretary of State to the appointment of the Colonial Treasurer to a seat at the Executive Council. Other measures proposed by His Excellency are also receiving consideration at home, and it is not too much to hope that the Praya junction scheme will be sanctioned and carried through during Sir George Bowen's administration. There always have been lions in the path in connection with this much desired improvement. Either the Admiralty or the War Office, and sometimes both, have objected and raised obstacles, and there was often a want of cordiality between former Governors and the Military Authorities. This has been altered now; Sir George Bowen is on the best of terms both with the Admiral and the General, and there is consequently little likelihood of any friction between the civil, naval and military authorities during the present administration.

Some of the preliminary difficulties in the way of bringing about the Praya extension have been surmounted, but a new one appears to have been raised by Vice-Admiral WILLIS. The cost of the work of reconstruction and dredging is estimated at £45,000, of which around Sir George Bowen proposed that the Colony should contribute two-thirds, and the Imperial Government the other third. The Colony will, gain nothing but the new thoroughfare and all the advantages which a continuous praya will afford in connecting the eastern and western portions of the town and in relieving the pressure of the traffic in Queen's Road. The Military Authorities, on the other hand, would acquire no less than five acres of land, which certainly is a good consideration for what they would give up and contribute; while the Naval Yard would be increased by a quarter of an acre, and a basis three-quarters of an acre in size would be constructed for the use of the Navy. But Admiral WILLIS was scarcely not satisfied with this arrangement; he apparently thought that the advantages to be derived from the project were not commensurate with the sacrifice involved in the surrender of the foreshore in front of the Naval Yard. He accordingly advanced a claim to the Royal Artillery Barracks to incorporate with the naval establishment. This claim is, and, we are bound to say, very naturally, resisted by the Military Authorities, who are already so short of accommodation that they have to rent a building at some distance from the other barracks. No doubt the Naval Authorities could do with more space, but it is hard to be expected the Military will give up so large and important a range of buildings as the Artillery Barracks, though its possession, would make the Naval establishment compact and convenient. It is of course most desirable that all parties should get fair play, and every effort is being made, we doubt not, to that end by the local Government. We are confident, too, that General SAMOENS will lend his best efforts to promote an early settlement of this important question. Admiral Sir WILLIAM DOWELL has hardly had time as yet to make himself thoroughly acquainted with all the details of the subject, but we believe that he will be found ready to conceive what is possible and reasonable. Could not a somewhat more extensive reclamation be made, and a larger slice of land thus be secured for the Naval Authorities? The obstacle to this proposal would probably be found in the depth of water if the Prays were carried out further. However, we trust that some equitable and mutually satisfactory arrangements may be come to at an early date in order that the work may be commenced as soon as possible.

Mr. Christopher Gardner, H.M. Consul at Ichang, succeeds Mr. Horatio Allen at Newchwang.

A Cricket Match will be played to-day between Officers of the Army and Navy and the Hongkong Club, (Return), commencing at 10 a.m. sharp.

The *Saiyuan* informs that the Prince of the Annamite Royal family who was the author of the massacres of Christians in Tonquin has been excommunicated.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that Her Majesty has approved the appointment of the new non-commissioned officers and instructors, which post was responded to by Capt. Tomlin for the former, and Sergt. James for the latter.

"Streetmen and Virgins" are the singing-tosses of the rest of the evening was in having many good songs, and joining in the chorus. The meeting broke up at about 10.15, and the chartered transport, having got off the mud with the rise of the tide took the men back to Hongkong, a thoroughly successful and enjoyable day having been spent in spite of the weather.

VOLUNTEER SHOOTING COMPETITION AND DINNER.

The special tenement dues imposed at Manila in connection with the new harbour works are to be reduced by one-half, the new scale taking effect on the 25th inst.

Wor. Bro. Orley was installed as Master of United Service Lodge on Saturday night by Right Wor. Bro. C. P. Chater, District Grand Master. The ceremony had been postponed until that date on account of Wor. Bro. Orley's illness.

His Italian Majesty's ship *Cristoforo Colombo*, Captain Ascanio, and his Imperial German Majesty's ship *Stosch*, Captain von Neistitz, bearing the Flag of Commodore Passchon, left Amoy for Shanghai on the 9th inst. en route to Choito and Japan.

A letter from Madrid published in the Manila *Correo* states that Don Manuel del Palacio has been appointed Spanish Minister Resident in Japan, and that Señor Castillo y Trigueros, the present Minister in Japan, has been appointed Minister Plenipotentiary of Peking.

Notice is given in the *Gazette* that the Sacred Congregation of the Propagation of the Faith intends to apply for a Bill to enable it to sell and dispose of the ground on which the present Roman Catholic Cathedral stands, either and save suitable premises having been secured.

The Hon. John Russell Young, U.S. Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to China, has arrived at Shanghai from Tientsin. The *Mercure* understands that H. E. is on his way to Canton, in which place he was to take passage in the U.S. corvette *Enterprise* on the 11th inst.

The Chinese war correspondent was sent down to Tientsin by the *Shen-pao*. The French thought him a Chinese spy and were going to shoot him. Rango was afforded to him on board the *Horizon*, where he was concealed for two days until he availed of an opportunity for Shanghai—

Mercury.

The Chinese Government is sending exhibits of food and medicine to the Health Exhibition to be held in London shortly. The exhibits from the different ports go forward by the *Thames*. The Government are also sending thirty Chinese by the same steamer to be present at the Exhibition—

Navy News.

A court-martial has been held at Woosung on a midshipman of the British corvette *Woolwich*, who played high jinks in Singapore and is said to have forged a bill in order to provide the cash which he required.

The man was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment and flogging from the service. *Courier*.

On Friday a stone cutter named Li, native of fati, was sent to the slide, but about half way down some stones, it became bent and struck the unfortunate man, inflicting injuries which speedily had a fatal effect. An inquest was held on the body at the Civil Hospital on Saturday afternoon.

We would recommend the attention of persons

with trouble-some servants to a case

heard in the Summary Jurisdiction Court on Saturday, which will be found reported in another column.

It is as well that people should know the powers conferred upon them in such cases by law. Mr. Justice Russell's remarks will probably serve to enlighten some who were not well acquainted with those powers before.

The following is the order of the day for the trial of the Legislatice Council to be held on Wednesday next:

1. The Attorney-General to move that the Council go into Committee on the following Bills.

(1) A Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend Ordinance of 1871.

(2) A Bill entitled the Merchant Shipping Ordinance, 1875, Amendment Ordinance, 1884.

It is reported that the Korean Government intends despatching a Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Peking. Mr. Kin-han-shok, to whom the Government privately offered the position, has declined to go, and it is reported probably that Mr. Lin-yi-ko will be elected Ambassador in his stead. It is quite certain, at all events, that Korea will be represented in Peking, and therefore hold communication with China on a N.C. Daily News.

The following account of the average amount of bank notes in circulation in Hongkong during the month of March is published in the *Gazette*:

BANKS. AMOUNT.

Orchard Bank Corporation \$98,635

Chartered Mortemort Bank of India, 1,111,753

Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, 970,110

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, 2,913,516

Total, \$35,241,023

The exchange of less upon less, seen after a week, upon shipments of China tea is, as the *Indian Tea Gazette* says, an oft-told tale that it has caused much wonderment among those on the outside of the market and not familiar with its many secrets, as to how such phenomenal rates are arrived at. The *Tea Gazette* says that the tea was had done much for the *Praya* on the 1st instant, and the remoulding of the colony.

The tea was drunk with musical honours.

Gunner Mehlman proposed the health of Capt. Francis, who, he understood, was leaving the colony to be present at the *Praya* on the 1st instant, and had gone to see him in the morning that he had supported the Corps in every way.

After dinner glasses were filled and the Chairman gave two toasts of the Queen, the Governor, the Colony, and the Corps.

The Chairman then proposed the health of the Colonies.

The tea was drunk with musical honours.

Capt. Francis, having returned thanks, said he hoped to return by about the middle of August, but he was leaving very early in June.

When he came back he would find the Corps in a state of great unanimity and efficiency.

He hoped to have all the subdivisions united and working well together, and he should like to find that there had sprung up a healthy spirit of rivalry between all the subdivisions, and a constant competition for the position of the most efficient subdivision. He hoped also that in the coming few months the tea might be of a better quality than it had been.

Major Tripp, the commanding officer, said he was in the best of health and spirits.

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M A R C H .

A MAID OF ARACIDE.

Has over watched upon a flowery tea,
A sweet wild blossom, thy wild modest grace,
Hast over stood in still amaze to see
A queenly rose in some fair roseary?

Blind, thou in one that stand so far apart—

The child of nature and the child of art—

And lo! my maid, my maid of Aracide!

Amid the sweet will flowers I saw her stand,
And such one claimed her for a sister dear,

And sent to greet her, ignorant of fair!

And ye so fair her face so truly graced,

I troubled her in sight, and drew near

And led a willing captive through the land.

GROKES WHARFERS.

WHAT LOLLIPOPS ARE MADE OF?

I must here repeat the record of a discovery. On day I was crossing sugar-house in the docks (London) and saw dozen cases filled with the nasty corruptions of the floor, which was greasy with escaped molasses. "What are these for?" I asked. "Oh, they go to make lollipops, sir," was the reply.—*Good Words.*

RUSSIAN CHURCHES.

Some of the Byzantine churches in Moscow are worthily representative of a religion remarkable for its antiquity, the grandeur of its temples, and the gorgeousness of its memorials. There is a massive beauty about these churches which no one who has not seen them can form an idea of. The illumination of the human mind is too weak to be able to compare up from the dead lines and shades of drawings a complete picture of a Russian church in all its magnificence. Coloured illustrations even fail to produce a correct impression. Thoroughly to realize a truly Russian church, one must see it in all the glory of its surroundings, the golden cupolas dazzling in the deep blue sky, and resplendent with the intense rays of the noonday sun, the bright colours of the walls and pillars standing out in glaring contrast with the beautiful whiteness of that everlasting plied winter snow. Or else see it in the mysterious shimmers of a moonlight night, when the sledge crackles over the crisp snow as it carries the traveler along, and when the tall belfry, with its cruciform spires, rises solemnly into the silent sky, standing like a sentinel guarding the sacred spot hidden in, on which the massive columns and dark, weird, carved walls stand in humble grandeur, the fitting representatives of that Christian religion for the observance of which they were erected.—*Ezra.*

A YOUNG STOIC.

Marcus Aenius Verus, afterwards to be known as the great Emperor Marcus Aurelius Antoninus, was in all respects a model boy. Not the namby-pamby model that all human boys desire, but a right minded, healthy, wealthy, and wise young Roman of the second century of the Christian era. At that time (for the world was not yet Christianized) there flourished a race of teachers and philosophers known as Stoics, wise old pagans, who held that the perfect man must be free from passion, unmoved by either joy or grief, taking everything just as it came, with serenity and utter indifference. A hard rule, but that lad's teachers had been mainly of the "School of the Stoics"; as it was called, and their wise sayings had made so deep an impression on the little Marcus that, when only twelve years old, he set up for a bold-faced Stoic. He put on the coarse mantle that was the peculiarities of the sect, practised all their severer rules of self-denial, and even slept on the hard floor or the bare ground, denying himself the comfort of a bed, until his good mother, who knew what was best for little fellows, even though they were stoics, persuaded him to compromise on a quilt. He loved exercise and manly sport; but he was above all a wonderful student—too much of a student, in fact; for as the old record states, "his excess in study was the only fault of his youth."—*St. Nicholas.*

PETROLEUM, THE SALT OF THE BIBLE.

It seems to be frequently referred to in the Bible, though biblical chemistry is much obscured by bad translation. Many things become comprehensible if we take the general term salt, and apply it to petroleum and its residues, asphalt, &c. &c. wife, if converted into a pillar of common salt, would have been washed away by the first shower of rain; but a pillar of asphalt, even as a memory of her, would have been an enduring monument, and might have been seen by Josephus and his contemporary, Clement of Rome, both of whom declare that they saw it. So also when we are told by Mark that "every one shall be salted with fire, and every sacrifice shall be salted with salt." I see a meaning only when I recall that, in regions containing petroleum, sacrificial fires were fed with this fuel to aid the burning. In like manner, when Matthew likens the blessed, first to salt, and immediately afterwards to a lighted torch (for candles, as translated, were then unknown), I see the connection in his mind. He had just said that salt which had lost its savour was only fit to be trodden under foot of man. Now salt never loses its savour, and is never fit to be trodden under foot. But petroleum does lose its essence by exposure, and, out of the residue, the ancients used to make asphalt, pavements, as they do at the present day. I only give some reasons for my belief that the salt of the Bible, in its generic sense, was often applied to petroleum; but I admit at the same time that the readers of *Good Words* ought not to attach much importance to my opinions on any subject of biblical criticism.—*Good Words.*

BALAAM AND HIS ASS.

An incident in the course of one of Bradburn's journeys was described to me by an old minister at Plymouth, who had the best evidence of its authenticity, evidence which was afterwards confirmed by Bradburn's nearest relative and biographer. The incident shows that his wit could be more efficacious than surely provoked. He had come to a roadside inn to wait for the stage coach. While waiting, another passenger entered—the young lord, attended by his valet. The young gentleman was lively, but stammered slightly in conversation. On seeing Bradburn, whose personal appearance would attract attention, the gay young fellow, speaking aside to the landlady, said: "You do have a person here!" "Ho's a Methodist preacher, my lord," said she. "Oh, then, I'll have a bit of fun with him." Approaching Bradburn, he said "P-p-pray, sir, c-can you tell m-h-how it was that Balaam's ass spoke?" Bradburn, who knew that if you look full at a stammerer, you increase his difficulty, replied, "What do you say, sir?" "P-p-pray, sir, c-can you tell m-h-how it was that Balaam's ass spoke?" "What do you say, sir?" cried Bradburn, looking sternly into his face, and pointing his hand to his ear. "P-p-pray," answered the poor fun-maker, and stammered, his distorted face unable to put his question. His valet came to his master's rescue, and bowing to Bradburn, said: "My lord wishes to know, sir, whether you can inform him how it was that Balaam's ass spoke?" "I don't know, sir," was the answer, "unless it was that Balaam stammered so badly himself that he hired his ass to speak for him." Both master and man had found fun enough.—*Sunday Magazine.*

CELEBRITIES AT HOME.

THE DIRECTOR OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS.

IN SCOTLAND YARD.

The keen gray eye which Mr. Howard Vincent keeps upon the criminal population at large opens at an early hour, not in Scotland Yard, but in Grosvenor Square. By eight a.m., the Director of Criminal Investigation is alert and ready for action—that is, if he has not been disturbed still earlier by telegram or telephone to his bedside. Probably the hardest-working man in England, he is an enthusiast as to the details of his post, and the possibility of so repressing and preventing crime as to reduce it to minimum. The immense mass of correspondence, to be got through every day, is taken care of by the special thanks of the Secretary of State for War and the Commander-in-chief for reports on the Russian Army, and received also a grant from the Treasury. Then Mr. Howard Vincent begins his intervals of military service in the intervals of his fatigues, having obtained permission from his father to quit the Army, whereupon he was appointed captain in the Royal Dragoon Guards, and in 1875 lieutenant-colonel of the Central London Rangers.

Like Eskine, who tried to turn the Navy, the Army, and the Bar, Mr. Vincent was, before being done with the hard work which he does not need, tried the Bar as well as the army and police. In 1876 he went on the South-Eastern Circuit after a year spent in travelling over Roumania, Servia, Turkey, Greece, and Turkey. With his special aptitude for languages, he studied Turkish, and, on the outbreak of the war, was sent again for the *Daily Telegraph*, to the head-quarters of the Grand Duke Nicholas. Shortly after this he resumed his study of foreign policy systems, and in 1878 was appointed by Sir Richard Cross to reorganise the detective system of this country after the proceedings taken against the men connected with the Turf frauds. By degrees the entire detective force, now consisting of between three and four hundred officers, has been reorganized and an intimate connection established between the metropolitan and the foreign and provincial police. The Act to amend the Prevention of Crime appearing to be operative, the Director of Criminal Investigations undertook the difficult task of making it valid, and has, by a system of supervision now almost perfect, aided materially in the repression of crime, and the detection of such criminals as display a desire to "run straight" on their release.

The eight-o'clock post disposed of, breakfast was followed by a change of venue to Scotland Yard, whilst a bevy of persons have already directed their steps. All sorts and conditions of men and women come to see the Director of Criminal Investigations, whose calm and courteous demeanour possibly induces them to trespass on his time to an exorbitant extent. Among other curiosities of mankind, some maniacs—not the ordinary imbeciles one meets in the new series, illustrated not only with portraits of people "wanted," but with diagrams of their costumes and of the articles of value stolen. It is now a valuable engine of detection in the hands of all the police in the country. All this, and a great deal more in increasing the efficiency of the force under his command, has been done by the Director of Criminal Investigations, who, now that he has become a married man, the husband of the daughter and co-heiress of the late Mr. George Moffat, M.P., of Goodrich Court, Herefordshire, is hardly likely to cling to the post. Thus the Director is not only severely interviewed between the hours of eleven and four, but has plenty of matter to commit to writing afterwards; and when Fenians are to be hunted up, or gambling clubs hunted down, has enough and to spare to occupy him till the modern late hour of dinner. He sits in a room, a very large room, in Scotland Yard, easy, and yet, in a certain way, tortured of access. It is approached through Scotland Yard, in which our sees a certain development of police, and also of the individuals who, as detective officers, are supposed to be so disguised as to be unrecognizable as policemen. This is for too sanguine a view to take of their "make-up," for as a rule they show the clever hook—that is to say, betray the policeman or the "old soldier" by the squaring of the shoulders or a swaggering gait. Deception to be good for anything, should be well carried out; and two English detectives get beyond "Hash Tox Ondreit's" waistcoat. It would be bootless to recommend discontented actors to take to Scotland Yard as a profession. Their own is far too well paid to permit them to desert it. But perhaps a few of the more impudent amateur gentlemen now in training might find a refuge in the Criminal Investigation Department, if they should fail as actors, and yet prove capable of writing legibly and of spelling English with some approximation to correctness.

Threadring his way through a group of persons who look as if they had once been soldiers, and now are beggars, the visitor makes a flight of narrow steps, at the head of which he encounters the messenger, common to Government offices, who announces his name to Mr. Vincent. For a little while the caller is relegated to the waiting-room, a stuffy little den in which the sun of warmth is held up for by gas. From this he is ushered into the presence of the Director of Criminal Investigations, who sits at a kind of raised desk on the platform, and in front of a huge map of the district guarded by the Metropolitan Police, comprising a population as large as that of Scotland, "of Ireland exclusive of the loyal region of Ulster. In the middle of this desk, behind a row of books of reference, such as the *Perceval*, the *Police Code*, and the excellent text-book of Extradition Law, written by himself, sits the chief acid index, telephones, telegraphs, and speaking-tables galore, putting him in communication with other Government departments and the police centres marked on his map. There is a full-sized army revolver on the mantelpiece, but it is unloaded, and only remains where it is until it is removed to the Black Museum at the other end of the Yard. The energetic head of the only secret police tolerated in this country is by no means like a Far-Western editor; he is completely unversed, has loaded revolver under his blotting-paper, and wears the uniform of an English gentleman. He is, in fact, as well dressed as the ordinary morning coat of an English gentleman. 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